

# BLACK SCIENCE

14

RICK REMENDER  
MATTEO SCALERA  
MORENO DINISIO



## THE STORY SO FAR...

Reunited with his family and the Anarchist League of Scientists, Grant McKay has jumped into a new parallel dimension, a technologically hyper-advanced society based on ancient Rome, but seemingly devoid of life. A plague is raging in the streets, a plague accidentally unleashed upon this world by its own version of Grant McKay and the Dimensionauts!

Grant and his assistant Shawn contracted this deadly disease as they scoured the ruined streets for Grant's daughter, Pia, who ran off to follow Sara, in fact, her mother from another dimension.

It's become clear that the ruined Pillar's jumps across alternative realities aren't as random as they first seemed. Sara hinted at a pattern as she also accused Rebecca, Grant's lover, of harboring a secret agenda of her own for the Pillar. One that has cost countless lives across countless worlds.

Pia caught up with Sara deep within the city, but both are attacked by an army of Centurions, tasked with putting the unholy plague, and the Dimensionauts who unleashed it, to the flame...

**BLACK SCIENCE** created by Rick Remender & Matteo Scalera



**IMAGE COMICS, INC.**  
Robert Kirkman - Chief Operating Officer  
Erik Larson - Chief Financial Officer  
Todd McFarlane - President  
Mark Schultz - Chief Executive Officer  
Jim Valentino - Vice President  
Eric Stephenson - Publisher  
Karl Salame - Director of PR & Marketing  
Cory Murphy - Director of Sales  
Jeremy Sullivan - Director of Production  
Wally Goulet - Managing Production  
Emilio Badilla - Sales Assistant  
Bryan Boudreau - Sales Assistant  
Emily Miller - Accounting Manager  
Jessica Ambrose - Administrative Assistant  
Drew Brubaker - Director of Art  
Jonathan Chan - Production Manager  
Drew Gil - Art Director  
Wally Goulet - Art Director  
Addison Duke - Production Manager  
Vince Alvarado - Production Manager  
Sasha Head - Production Manager  
Teresa Ramo - Production Manager  
**IMAGECOMICS.COM**

**BLACK SCIENCE** #14, May 2015. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: 2001 Center Street, 6th Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704. Copyright © 2014 Rick Remender & Matteo Scalera. All rights reserved. **BLACK SCIENCE**™ (including all prominent characters featured herein), its logo and all character likenesses are trademarks of Rick Remender & Matteo Scalera, unless otherwise noted. Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks and copyrights of Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means (except for short excerpts for review purposes) without the express written permission of Image Comics, Inc. All names, characters, events and locales in this publication are entirely fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events or places, without satiric intent, is coincidental. DIGITAL EDITION. For international rights inquiries, contact: [foreignlicensing@imagecomics.com](mailto:foreignlicensing@imagecomics.com)

SOME PEOPLE DON'T DEAL SO WELL WITH THE STRESS OF BEING A PARENT.

IT'S JUST HOW IT IS.

WE'RE ALMOST TO PIA AND SARA.

SOME PEOPLE DON'T DEAL SO WELL WITH THE STRESS OF BEING A PARENT.

IT'S JUST HOW IT IS.

WE'RE ALMOST TO PIA AND SARA.

SOME PEOPLE DON'T DEAL SO WELL WITH THE STRESS OF BEING A PARENT.

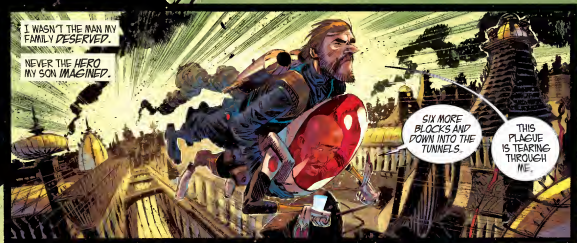
IT'S JUST HOW IT IS.

WE'RE ALMOST TO PIA AND SARA.

SOME PEOPLE DON'T DEAL SO WELL WITH THE STRESS OF BEING A PARENT.

IT'S JUST HOW IT IS.

WE'RE ALMOST TO PIA AND SARA.



I WASN'T THE MAN MY  
FAMILY DESERVED.

NEVER THE HERO  
MY SON IMAGINED.

SIX MORE  
BLOCKS AND  
DOWN INTO THE  
TUNNELS.

THIS  
PLAGUE  
IS TEARING  
THROUGH  
ME.



JUST  
HOLD  
ON.

BOTH SETS  
OF VITALS ARE  
STRONG.

I LET FEAR STOP  
ME FROM BEING  
THERE FOR THEM.

FEAR I'D GET IT WRONG.

FEAR I COULDN'T  
KEEP THEM SAFE.



EVERYTHING'S  
GOING TO BE  
OKAY.

I TRIED.

SIGNAL  
POINTS DOWN  
AND TO THE  
NORTH, ABOUT  
FIFTY FEET.

DID MY BEST.



I SWEAR I DID.

THERE!

LET ME PUT MY FAMILY  
BACK TO TOGETHER—



—MY LOWEST PRIORITY  
FOR TOO LONG.

SIGNALS  
COMING FROM  
DOWN—

OH,  
JESUS.

JESUS  
CHRIST.

WHAT?!

THE  
BLIPS...



THEY—

THEY'RE  
GONE.

WHAT?!



THEY'RE  
UNDERGROUND!

THE  
SIGNAL'S  
BEING  
BLOCKED.

ALL WE  
HAVE TO  
DO IS—

GRANT...



THESE  
BEACONS TRANSMIT  
THROUGH  
DIMENSIONS.

THE ONLY  
REASON THE  
TRANSMISSION  
WOULD STOP  
IS...

DON'T  
SAY IT.



DON'T YOU  
FUCKING  
SAY IT—

WAIT! WE  
DON'T KNOW  
WHAT'S DOWN  
THERE—!

PANIC FLASHES COLD.



NOT LIKE THIS.



NOT AFTER EVERYTHING—

PLEASE—

NOT MY LITTLE GIRL—

ANXIETY-RIPPLED  
FROM THE MOMENT  
SHE WAS BORN.

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL  
THING I'D EVER SEEN.

CONGRATULATIONS.



A REASON TO FIGHT  
FOR TOMORROW.

A REASON OUTSIDE  
OF MYSELF.

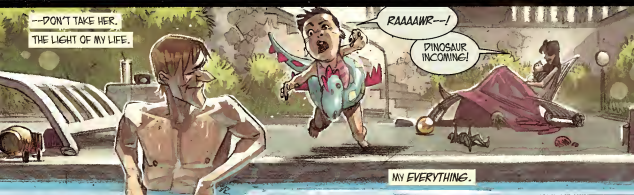
SOMEHOW BECAME  
A REASON TO HIDE  
FROM THEM—

--SHUT OFF THE REAL  
RESPONSIBILITY.

PLEASE,  
GOD--



--DON'T TAKE HER.  
THE LIGHT OF MY LIFE.



MY EVERYTHING.

WHY THE  
FUTURE  
MATTERS.

WHY LIFE HOLDS  
ANY MEANING.



ALWAYS SOMETHING  
MORE IMPORTANT.

I'D ALWAYS MAKE  
IT UP LATER.

DON'T  
GO!

COME PLAY,  
DADDY!

SOME OTHER TIME.

WHEN THINGS  
WERE NORMAL.

BUT IT DIDN'T  
MATTER---

MY LITTLE GIRL  
ADORED ME.

ZRASHH

AND I  
ABANDONED  
HER.

A TOURIST.

NEVER AROUND  
FOR ANY  
SUBSTANTIAL  
AMOUNT OF TIME.

AND I RESENTED  
THEM FOR IT.

OKAY, LET'S  
DO YOUR  
SIGHT  
WORDS.

PLANNED THEM FOR  
THE HOURS I CHOSE---

--FOR REBECCA.

AND I'LL NEVER  
GET THOSE  
YEARS BACK.

KRSHH

NO MONEY  
CAN BUY IT.

UNG--!

ZAK

PZG

ZAP  
ZAP  
ZAP



IT'S JUST GONE.

P-PIA...?



OH--

OH, GOD--

OH--

OH, GOD--



GET BACK!

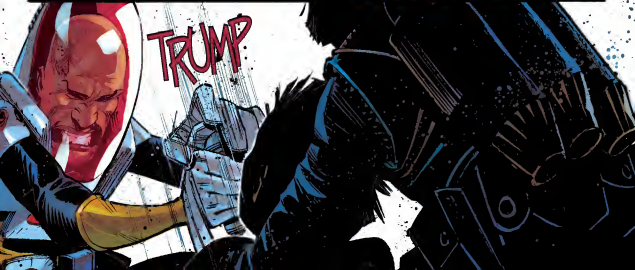
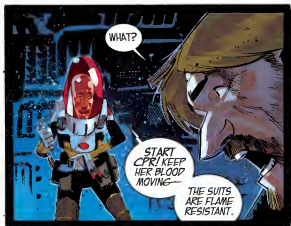
PSSH HHHHHH



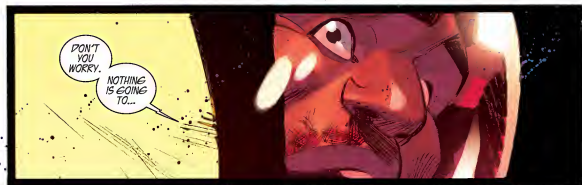
S-SHE--

SHE'S NOT BREATHING!













**B L A C K S E R I E S**

**RICK REMENDER**  
WRITER

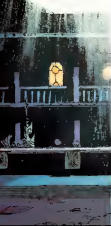
**MATTEO SCALERA**  
ARTIST

**MORENO DINISIO**  
COLORS

**RUS WOOTON**  
LETTERING

**SEBASTIAN GIRNER**  
EDITOR





HOW'S  
THE PILLAR  
LOOKING  
REBECCA?

WELL, I DON'T  
MAGICALLY HAVE  
THE TOOLS TO FIX  
THE DAMAGE YOU DID  
TO THE HOMING  
BEACON.

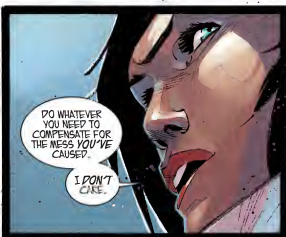
SO,  
IT'S STILL  
UTTERLY  
FUCKED—



—AND  
ABOUT TO  
JUMP.

OKAY. THE SHAMAN'S INCUBATED  
US FROM THE CONTAGION, BUT  
THEY'RE EXPOSED  
OUT THERE.

I'M GOING  
TO GO FIND  
THEM.



DO WHATEVER  
YOU NEED TO  
COMPENSATE FOR  
THE MESS YOU'VE  
CAUSED.

I DON'T  
CARE.



YOU DON'T  
CARE ABOUT  
HIM EITHER,  
DO YOU?

THOSE THINGS  
SARA SAID  
ABOUT  
YOU...



LIES.

WHAT COULD  
YOU WANT BAD  
ENOUGH TO  
GIVE A DECADE  
TO THIS?

TO TEAR  
UP ERANT'S  
FAMILY?



I'M NOT  
THE ONE WHO  
MADE YOU PINE  
FOR THE MAN'S  
WIFE.

AND IT'S  
NOT MY FAULT  
HE DIDN'T WANT  
TO BE WITH  
HER ANYMORE.



DON'T  
FOOL  
YOURSELF,  
KADIR—



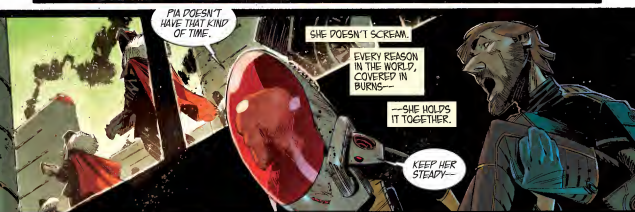
—YOU DON'T GIVE  
A FUCK ABOUT  
GRANT'S FAMILY.

BE  
THOROUGH!

THESE  
INFECTIOUS  
SWINE KILLED  
YOUR  
FAMILIES!

THERE'S  
TOO MANY,  
SHAWN.

WE HAVE  
TO GO BACK,  
FIND ANOTHER  
WAY—



PIA DOESN'T  
HAVE THAT KIND  
OF TIME.

SHE DOESN'T SCREAM.

EVERY REASON  
IN THE WORLD,  
COVERED IN  
BURNS—

—SHE HOLDS  
IT TOGETHER.

KEEP HER  
STEADY—



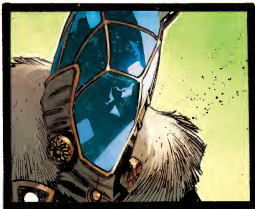
—I'LL  
TAKE THE  
LEAD.

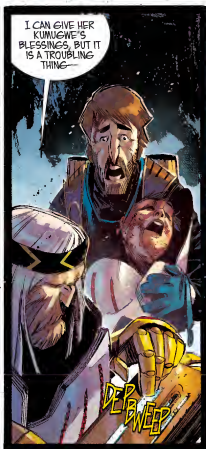
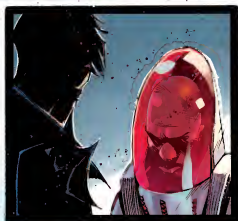
WHERE DID SHE  
GET SUCH  
STRENGTH?



SARA.

SARA, WHO DIED  
TO SAVE HER.







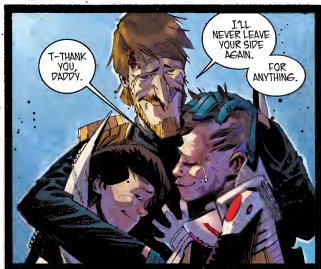


THE PAIN--

IT'S GONE.

YOU DID IT!

THANK YOU, SHAMAN!



T-THANK YOU, DADDY.

I'LL NEVER LEAVE YOUR SIDE AGAIN.

FOR ANYTHING.

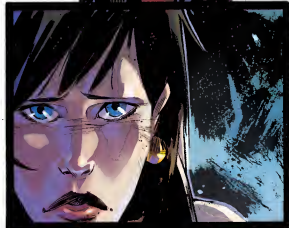


I'M GOING TO FIX IT ALL.

EVERYTHING.



I'M NEVER GOING TO LET ANYONE COME BETWEEN US AGAIN.



REBECCA...

ENOUGH!



WE'LL FIX  
THE PILLAR  
IN THE NEXT  
WORLD.

THEN  
WE ALL GO  
HOME.

GET IN AND  
GET CLOSE.  
HELMETS  
ACTIVATED,  
YOU KNOW THE  
PREPARATIONS.

THAT'S  
NOT GOOD  
ENOUGH.

NO.

SHAMAN'S GOT  
IT RIGHT  
EXCEPT FOR  
ONE THING:

THE  
PILLAR'S  
NOT  
CURSED—

--WE  
ARE.

OUR  
CHOICES  
ARE.

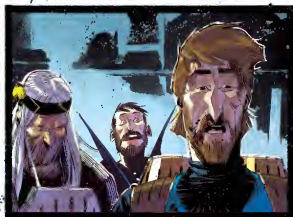
I'M NOT JUST WALKING  
AWAY FROM THIS  
CORPSE OF A  
WORLD.

THIS ISN'T  
WHAT I  
SIGNED ON  
FOR.

YOU'VE LOST  
SIGHT OF WHY  
WE BUILT THIS  
THING.







TIME TO TURN  
AND FACE IT.  
STOP RUNNING.



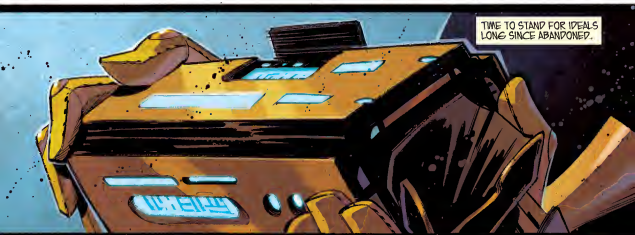
THAT THING  
YOU USED TO  
HEAL, HOW  
DOES IT  
WORK?

I TELL IT TO  
DETECT DISEASE.  
I TELL IT TO CURE  
DISEASE, AND IT DOES.



WOULD YOU  
LEND IT TO  
ME?

TIME TO FIGHT  
FOR WHAT'S RIGHT.

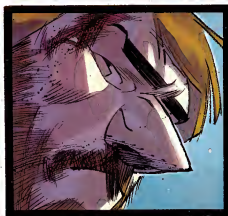


TIME TO STAND FOR IDEALS  
LONG SINCE ABANDONED.



GRANT, IF YOU'RE  
DOING SOMETHING  
STUPID—LEAVE  
ME THE SUN.

IN CASE  
YOU DON'T  
MAKE IT  
BACK.



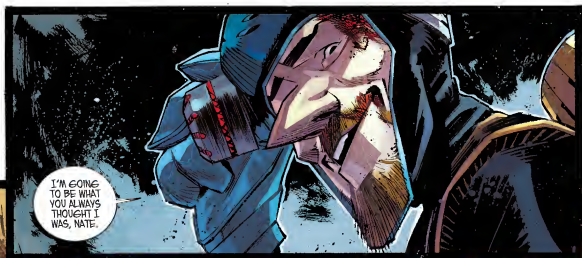
YOU FOCUS ON  
REPAIRING  
THE PILLAR,  
REBECCA.

HERE SHAWN,  
YOU'RE A GOOD  
SHOT.

DAD?



WHAT ARE  
YOU GOING  
TO DO...?



I'M GOING  
TO BE WHAT  
YOU ALWAYS  
THOUGHT I  
WAS, NATE.



A HERO.

TO BE CONTINUED

# FROM PILLAR TO POST



## CALLING ALL DIMENSIONAUTS!

Send comments, questions and distress signals to:  
[WriteRemender@gmail.com](mailto:WriteRemender@gmail.com)! Mark letters "OK to print".

**RR - And so begins the ascension of Grant McKay from compromised workaholic to the man he once was, and the man his son always imagined him to be.**

One of the wonderful things about creating a series from the ground up is creating the character arcs. Knowing that Grant would start at one place and end up in somewhere very different. But in order to do it right with an ensemble cast takes time. Time to give the arc a wide enough path so that the change is earned. All of the characters have solid arcs planned out, but Grant's is the first to reach the other side. Shawn has awoken his mentor's sense of purpose and given the Dimensionauts in the Anarchist League of Scientists a reminder of their credo to make every world better.

The next two issues it's all tested, and everything that has happened in the series to date comes to a head. But that's still months away, so let's just go to take some letters for now while you wait.

Loving **BLACK SCIENCE**. Question: is there a dimension where I'm not a mess of a person? Where I'm not sitting on the couch in my underwear reading comics? Is it the same for everyone?

Chad Quandt

**RR - As I understand it there is a dimension where most all things possible are happening to you. And, of course, there are many dimensions where you are not around at all. And still many other dimensions where you are a carnivorous unicorn hunting sentient yams. Unfortunately, you're stuck in the one you've got so get dressed and get some fresh air. Or order a pizza and find something to watch on TV. Either way. Whatever feels best. I'm a pretty shitty life coach.**

Hey, guys!

I absolutely love your comic book, its characters in particular. That being said, I was wondering if you were able to cast someone in either a live action or voice over role as Grant or any of the other **BLACK SCIENCE** characters, whom would you choose?

- Corey

**RR - We're in the midst of some very exciting talks about translating the series into other media. So fingers crossed that something comes of it. For Shawn, I'd want a younger version of Angelo Christopher Moore from Fishbone. For Grant, I want Sam Rockwell. For Rebecca, I'd go with Alison Brie. For Kadir, I'd go with an unknown, someone famous in Turkey.**

Where to start...

How about how much ass this comic kicks. I eagerly anticipate each issue, and while people say they read the best first, I'm the opposite. Like eating your fries first because you want the last taste in your mouth to be that 5 Guys bacon cheeseburger. Thanks for being that burger.

P.S. I have to mention how important it is to support monthly books. Just the letters

section in this series alone makes it worth it. I say this because there's so much to gain from these articles. Issue 11's 'Pillar to Post' introduced me to God is an Astronaut. Now I have six albums I never knew existed. Six albums of pure magic!

Thank you and keep making those awesome burgers.

Derek Farla

**RR - Thanks for writing and letting us know. It does mean a lot. And you're right, supporting the single issues is incredibly important to the life of a creator-owned book. The single issues support us and enable us to get enough work done to collect in the trades. So by purchasing our single issues you help us keep the book alive and keep everyone's families fed. We all very much want to continue to make these comics for years to come and if you enjoyed the books supporting them in single issues helps us do that.**

**As for music, here are some albums I've been enjoying while I've been writing BLACK SCIENCE...**

- **TV on the Radio, *Seeds*** (my favorite album by anyone in years)
- **The Mercury Program, *The Mercury Program***
- **Real Estate, *Days***
- **Trentemøller, *Lost***
- **Balmorhea, *San Solomon***
- **RJD2, *The Horror***
- **The American Dollar, *A Memory Stream***
- **College, *Heritage***

Mr. Remender,

I got out of comics for a few years and recently started again. They guy at my local shop steered me to **BLACK SCIENCE**. Holy shit! This is why I read comic books. I cannot tell you how much I am loving your book (I bought the first two trades). I love thoughtful sci-fi and this book nails it. I was wondering if you had any recommendations for me to read as well. I am currently really into a few Image titles (*East of West*, *Invincible*, *Manhattan Projects*) but I would love to hear your thoughts on what else to read. Thanks, man and keep up the awesome work!

Jeff Graham

**RR - First off welcome back to comics! Careful though, if all of my friend's parents were right, comics will melt your mind with childish depravity. As for a great science fiction comic book, I'll give you two recommendations: *Fear Agent* and *The Incal*. After you read those come to me for more.**

Guys,

The world wants to know the answer to this burning question...who would win in a dance-off between Grant McKay and *Fear Agent*'s Heath Huston?

Corey H.

**RR - Grant is still building himself up to be a hero. He's more of a seat-of-the-pants kind of survivalist at this point. Whereas Heath was a bit more of a hardened soldier.**

**Depending on what point in the story you grab them from it would be different. But if it were Grant from this era and Heath during his alien exterminator years, Heath would kick the living shit out of him.**

Dimensionauts,

Plan up through 50 issues, eh? Pfffft. Pillaring straight to a dimension where this book runs to 500.

Cheers,

Linus

**RR - Who knows? It could run way more than that. It all depends on how much more story comes to us during the production and how many of you continue to want it.**

Hallo Space Boy(s)

I just finished reading issue 12 and have to congratulate you all on continuing to produce such a consistent, solid book, month after month. The colours remain my favourite feature of the title, a close second being Mr. Wootton's font selection(s), tall and wiry, just like Mr. Scalera's characters. My only gripe: I sometimes wish we could lighten up on the paint splatter. At times, it works and pushes forward the narrative (in the first issue especially), but in other moments it simply appears as if someone's dribbled all over the panels.

A question regarding the Eververse: our principal cast seem to exist and have the same relationships in most every layer of the Onion we've encountered, which is also to say that their parents and their parents' parents and so on met, mated, and made a million other decisions to culminate in where they are today, the probability of which would be impossible to calculate if we presume that the Eververse has always existed. It seems that the only way this could be the case is if Grant, his group, and their respective bloodlines are some kind of Eververse constants, although seemingly only in layers of the Onion where oxygen is present to support human life. I don't imagine this 'fact' would sit very well with a professed anarchist like Grant, as this would be nail-in-the-coffin determinism. Yes? No? Am I way off?

Keep up the solid work. Mr. Remender, **BLACK SCIENCE**, *Low*, and *Deadly Class* are all in my pull file and are each an enjoyable read.

My best,

James Hunsdale-Loh

**RR - Grant and Shawn have both figured out that the Pillar is not jumping as randomly as they once thought. So they have been ending up in dimensions where other versions of themselves have either existed or passed through. I can't tell you any more than that without spoiling some fun stuff. So I'll give you the classic bullshit answer of, "keep reading!"**

That's it for this month. Next month begins the climax of the first big story we've been telling. Everything that has happened comes crashing down and, as the man once said: shit is about to get increasingly more real.

- Rick



ISSUE TWO  
PREVIEW

5.13.15



RUNLOVEKILL

# RUNLOVEKILL™

TSUEI CANETE OLEA

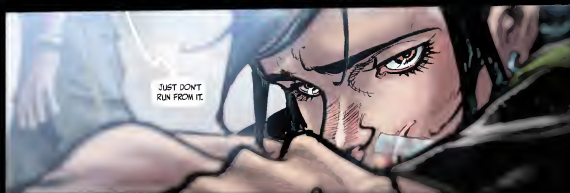
MANU  
OLEA

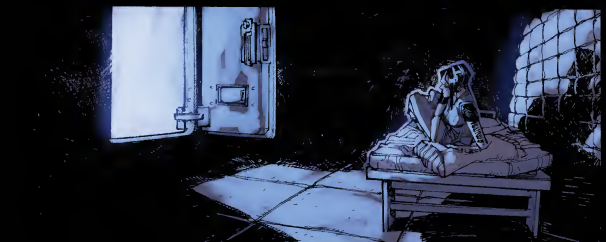
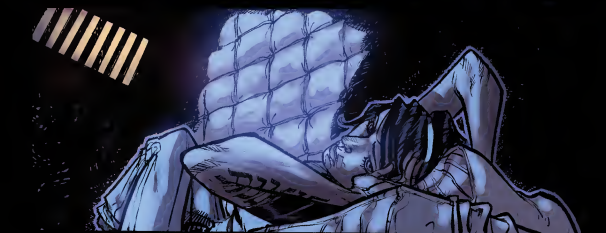
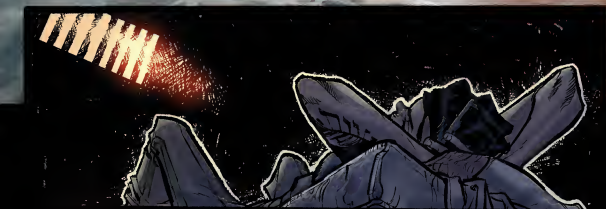
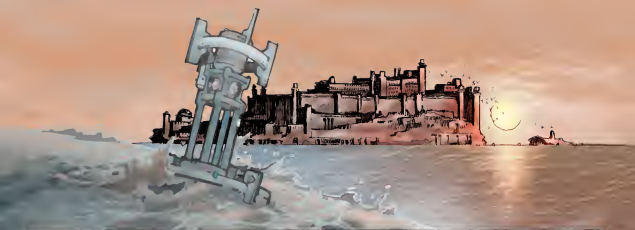




# RUNLOVEKILL











continues in RUNLOVEKILL #2 on sale now!

# NEXT ISSUE

## BLACK SCIENCE

15

RICK REMENDER  
MATTEO SCALERA  
MORENO DINISIO



\$3.50





IMAGECOMICS.COM

RATED M / MATURE